

The Hampden-Sydney Tiger

April 21, 2022

"The Hampden-Sydney student will behave as a gentleman at all times and in all places."

Issue CI.12

FACULTY CONSIDERS CURRICULUM CHANGES

DRAKE KALINOWSKI '23
STAFF WRITER

Rumors of a change to the curriculum have been circulating around The Hill since last spring with much uncertainty and a lack of student knowledge as to where the college is in the process and what is even meant by 'changes to the curriculum'. Doctors James Frusetta and Jennifer Vitale were able to meet with me or provide me with information that sheds some light on the otherwise unknown subject of curriculum change. The truth of the matter is, the changes to the curriculum are still far enough away that, depending on the time it takes to adopt suitable changes to the curriculum, anywhere from half to the entire present student body would likely be unaffected by the changes.

To begin, Dr. Frusetta was able to provide *The Tiger* with some simple information regarding why the faculty decided to change the curriculum. It all stems from the idea that the faculty at HSC simply teach too many courses. Dr. Frusetta writes that "there's some truth to that — a study in 2005 showed that in the top 100 liberal arts colleges, only 2 had 7+ classes. (11 had 4 courses; 39 had 5; 1 had 11 courses every 2 years; and 45 had 6 courses)". Currently, faculty teach on a '3-4' course load; that is to say, three classes one semester, four the following, or potentially the reverse depending on department and other factors. The faculty seems to be focused mostly on shifting to a '3-3' course load instead of the old '3-4' model, which could make the college a more competitive environment to recruit and retain valuable professors. Additionally, this is done to improve quality of life and work for professors. Teaching students is hard work with lots of planning, individual counseling, and grading to be done per class. It may not seem like much for a class of twenty five students or less, but teaching two iterations of the same course plus another different course on top of that means that professors are often strapped for time and rest in a manner that many students can likely relate too. Dr. Vitale also noted that qual-

ity of work would likely be improved with reduced course load on professors, which means that the professors would be able to teach courses to the standards that they set and with the academic rigor that the college is famous for. Too often teachers have had to remove assignments or not offer certain aspects of courses because there simply is not enough time in their schedules. This curriculum change could be the way to offset that. All in all, this rework of the curriculum does not appear to be some secret boogeyman meant to eat away at the soul of Hampden-Sydney but is instead meant to make teaching classes as enjoyable as learning.

My interview with Dr. Vitale, who chairs the Committee for Reduction of Teaching Load (CRTL), elaborated on the information provided by Dr. Frusetta. Dr. Vitale explained that before the formation of CRTL, there had been a committee whose job was to gather research on the teaching loads of other schools, and found that HSC faculty taught drastically more classes than comparable peer institutions. CRTL, then, was tasked with examining the different structures of peer institutions and methods of structuring the curriculum to see if those changes would work at Hampden-Sydney. She also explained that the reduction in course load being examined for the faculty is, primarily, for the sake of the faculty. As it stands now, faculty are left with little time to actually conduct scholarly work. While students would likely notice little to no change, it would be incredibly beneficial to HSC to have a scholarly faculty who produce research. That research could provide opportunities for students to be associated with established published professors as well as provide opportunities for work with that professor on a certain subject or focus, as well as making the degree potentially more valuable further from Hampden-Sydney itself. Dr. Vitale was sure to state that while these changes would have a "direct effect on the faculty, they would have indirect impacts on the student experience."

Dr. Vitale also clarified the timeline for these changes.

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WILSON CENTER HOSTS GULF WAR GENERAL

RICHARD JONES '25
STAFF WRITER

General. CEO. Student. Teacher. Man of Character. All of these roles perfectly embody General Walter Boomer, who came to Hampden-Sydney College on Wednesday, March 16 to teach young men about the importance of good leadership. "Leadership," the General said, "is the art of causing people to believe in your vision and then striving to achieve it." That night, General Boomer caused the students of Hampden-Sydney to believe enough in his vision to abandon their usual activities and come to Bortz to listen to him by appealing to perhaps the most important part of rhetoric: ethos. He proved his credentials for speaking long before he even stepped up to speak. General Boomer is a four-star general in the Marine Corps, a rare and meteoric feat. More specifically, and, he is the four-star general who

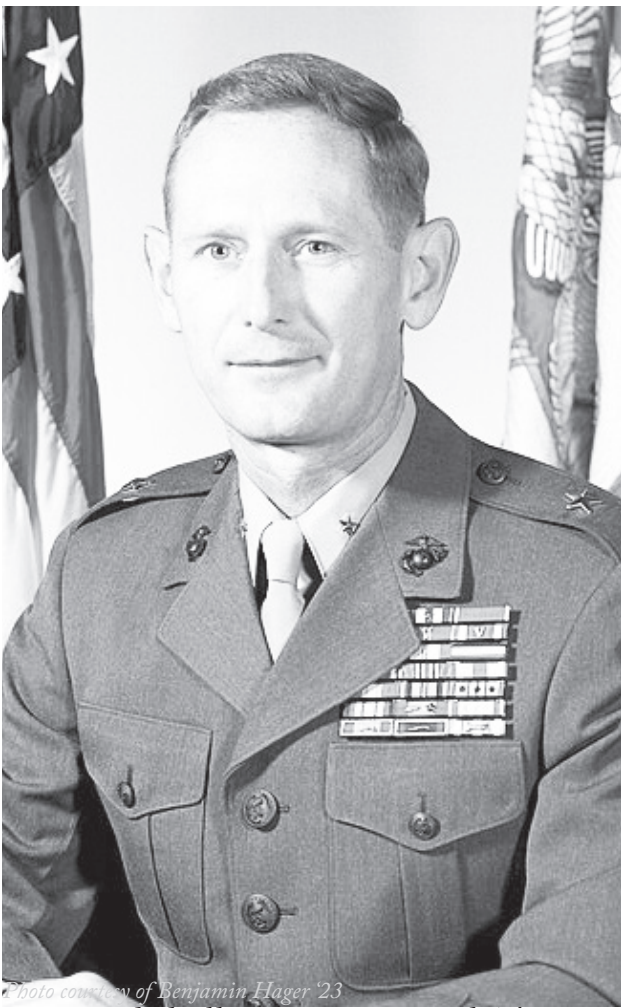


Photo courtesy of Benjamin Elger '23

commanded all Marine Corps in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm during the Gulf War. Afterward he became the CEO of the Rogers Corporation, a multi-million-dollar engineering company that saw tremendous growth under his administration. General Boomer also earned the Silver Star and Distinguished Ser-

vice award. The general's accomplishments go on and on, but to list them all would take up the rest of this article. General Boomer was not born into all of these accomplishments. Earlier in life, General Boomer was a student and part of the Navy ROTC at Duke University. "Originally, I was only going into the Marines to serve my

time and go to grad school," the General said in an interview, "But I decided that the Marines was a better fit." He credits his climb to what he calls the "Four Fundamental Truths of Leadership," which he expounded upon during his talk. Briefly, they are "car[ing] about your people, set[ting] the example, be[ing] a person of your word, and know[ing] your job." He then coupled these truths with personal examples from his life, two of which follow. The first was an account of his time in command of an expedition into enemy territory during the Vietnam War. It is during times of duress such as these when men can become most unruly, but General Boomer was able to maintain discipline in his men by requiring them to do one simple thing: maintain hygiene. His troops would shave regularly and bathe when they could. "If you look and feel like an animal," General Boom-

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IT'S ALL GREEK TO ME: ETA SIGMA PHI INDUCTS NEW MEMBERS

MICHAEL VAN CITTERS '22
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

On Wednesday, March 30, the Beta Theta chapter of Eta Sigma Phi initiated a new slate of members. The initiation, a private ceremony, was held at 4:30pm on the fourth floor of Bortz Library.

Founded at the University of Chicago in 1914 and chartered "in order to further the spirit of cooperation and good will among the members of classical departments," Eta Sigma Phi was nationalized in 1924 and was chartered at Hampden-Sydney in 1942.

Dr. Paul Hay emphasized the im-

portance of the society, saying "It's important to have an Eta Sigma Phi chapter at H-SC both to promote the study of the ancient world among the student body as well as to cultivate the camaraderie and fellowship of those students with an interest in antiquity. People don't just join clubs, people join people, and Eta Sigma Phi lets epic literature enthusiasts join up with history fans, mythology buffs, and philosophy devotees to encourage each other's curiosity for knowledge and to have some fun together, too."

In order to be initiated into Eta Sigma Phi, a student must have completed at least three se-

mesters of Greek or Latin, must have an appropriate GPA, and must pass an exam administered by the department's faculty members.

This year, the Society initiated nine students (seven from Latin and two from Greek). The ceremony was organized by Elliott Associate Professor and Chair of Classics Department Dr. Janice Siegel and was performed, along with Siegel, by Visiting Assistant Professor of Classics Dr. Paul Hay, Megaspriyantis (Grand President) George Zongor '22, and Megaspriyantis (Grand Treasurer) Samuel Robelen '23.

Following the initiation was a

public dinner and lecture sponsored by the Classics Department and given by Dr. Jacqueline DiBiasie-Sammons, an archaeologist and Assistant Professor of Classics at the University of Mississippi. The lecture, entitled *Marcus Was Here* (in 79 AD): How to Write Graffiti in Ancient Pompeii and held virtually in Gilmer 019, focused on the process by which ancient Roman graffiti are discovered, documented, analyzed, and interpreted.

DiBiasie-Sammons has done extensive archaeological work both in Pompeii and in Herculaneum and is the current

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Photo courtesy of Dr. Janice Siegel

The Hampden-Sydney Tiger

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by J. B. Wall '19

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The views expressed in the Hampden-Sydney Tiger are those of their authors and do not reflect the official stance of The Tiger.

We accept submissions in the form of letters or guest columns. Brevity is encouraged. Interested writers, cartoonists, and photographers can send us an e-mail at newspaper@hsc.edu.

CURRICULUM, CONT'D

The faculty, since 1910, has examined the curriculum of HSC and made changes when they felt it was appropriate. As of now, it has been roughly twenty years since the last change due to a level of satisfaction with where the curriculum has been. But as the world shifts again, the faculty has felt it may be time to change once again. These changes are slow, as Dr. Vitale pointed out in the interview. Even now, CRTL and the faculty at large are still looking for ideas with which to form a proposal, which would be debated on then have to be ratified before necessary changes could be made. The most tangible change for the curriculum at the moment would likely be how often certain courses are offered. As of now, certain courses are only offered every so often, and a reduced teaching load could affect how often the more esoteric classes are offered. The re-examination of the curriculum, while potentially done to reduce the load on faculty, is tailored to the students. Dr. Vitale noted that the concepts of majors and minors were not always around but were introduced at the college when the world demanded the change. This change may have seemed groundbreaking, but now it is obviously regarded as simply part of the way colleges around the country operate. Of course, there are options which are being examined that would create massive change, like the addition of a 4-week 'May Term' reminiscent of the 10-4 schedule of

the 2020-2021 academic year. There are also changes that could be as minor as allowing the two sciences within the core curriculum to be from the same department. The range is truly vast, and nothing is set in stone yet. Students need not worry about some unpopular change being made unilaterally and rapidly pushed out. Dr. Vitale estimates that the earliest curriculum change could even begin to be discussed is spring of 2023. In that case, only current sophomores or freshmen would feel the impacts. Realistically, however, she estimates anywhere from 2024 to 2026 as the actual timeline for changes, meaning that no current Tigers would experience the changes. H a m p - den-Sydney is an institution that views outside influence with caution, and rightfully so. It is because of this influence that HSC has been able to maintain its identity over the last two-hundred plus years of its existence. But not every change is someone working to dismantle what HSC is from the inside. Sometimes, work can be too much, or the needs of the students and the world change. We are in such turbulent times, and as the world around The Hill changes, the faculty work to ensure that The Hill retains its spirit and its prestige for generations to come.

PAGE TWO

CELEBRATING THE WOMEN OF HAMPDEN-SYDNEY

ALEX RUBINO '23
STAFF WRITER

“Hampden-Sydney College: where men are men and women are guests.” That has been a Hampden-Sydney motto for a long time, but what does it really mean? I don’t have an answer, but many would agree that the motto has been an accurate description of The College, at least in the past. Now, there are four women currently enrolled at Hampden-Sydney and many of the faculty/staff are women. Because March was Women’s History Month, we’re going to highlight some of the women who have made an impact on The Hill. When Hampden-Sydney brothers think about impactful women at the college, Anita Garland often comes to mind. Even though the junior class was the last class Anita recruited, we all still feel her impact. As Dean of Admissions, she would frequently lead off admissions tours with inspirational speeches, but most students remember her for the hand-written, kindly worded, colorful letters Anita so often wrote. One Hampden-Sydney student explains, “she was a part of the reason I attended this college because she embodied the true Hampden-Sydney spirit.” Next on our list are Mrs. Gloria, Mrs. Denise, and Mrs. Toni from

the Tiger Inn. All students who have ordered breakfast sandwiches and/or late-night TI have interacted with these three women. To students, they “help to brighten everybody’s days in the TI with their humor” and “are always asking genuine questions and care about the students.” Jennifer Vitale, Elliott Professor of Psychology, leaves an impact on her students both in and out of classroom. One student recalled, “I had just lost my backpack the other day, and Dr. Vitale invited me to her office hours and helped me with my situation as much as she could.” N e x t , Shaunna Hunter, Director of Bortz Library, works behind the scenes to keep Bortz Library (rated the 7th best college library in the country by the Princeton Review), running smoothly for all students. Renae Mancastrappa, Associate Dean for Student Development and Well-Being, also has a huge impact on our campus. I am sure all students know her for her help with students’ mental health, the fun contests she runs for the students, and the treats she brings for “Tuesday Treats” at the Office of Student Affairs. One student said that she “cares about every student’s well-being and wants every-

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ETA SIGMA PHI, CONT'D

field director of the Herculaneum Field Team of the Ancient Graffiti Project, “a digital resource for locating and studying handwritten inscriptions of the early Roman empire,” per its website. DiBiasie-Sammons proceeded by showing examples of graffiti that have been clarified using special software, explaining how each relic was photographed from as many angles as possible and then re-constituted digitally to produce something that is recognizable as text. The examples given expressed a variety of sentiments, ranging from simple phrases like “Hyacinthus was here” to sardonic parodies of the Aeneid. Unlike many ancient cities, Pompeii has been kept remarkably well intact, thanks in large part to the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in AD 79, the emissions from which covered the city—along with nearby Herculaneum and several other settlements—in a coat of volcanic ash that preserved many of the city’s graffiti. The excellent records that remain make Pompeii an ideal city for archaeological expeditions. DiBiasie-Sammons explained that ancient graffiti are an important part of understanding what it might have been like to live in ancient Rome. Much in the way that we see graffiti everywhere (on freeways, in bathrooms, on sidewalks), those living in ancient

Rome would likely have seen something similar. While people today use spray paint and Sharpies, graffitists two-thousand years ago wrote with charcoal and carved messages into plaster walls. S t u d y i n g things like graffiti, she explained, gives us a window into the past, and seeing what the casual inscriptions of the ancient Romans were like sheds light on ways in which their lives might have been similar to ours. The field’s current archaeological practices and technology are severely limited, though, and DiBiasie-Sammons added that only about 10% of the graffiti that has been discovered in Pompeii is currently extant. A r c h a e o - logical excavation requires a delicate touch that modern techniques cannot yet provide, and since researchers want to ensure that no historically relevant artifacts are damaged, around a third of the site at Pompeii is currently sectioned off and will not be excavated until technology is deemed to be good enough for effective excavation. The lecture concluded with an interactive component during which attendees were provided a sheet of ancient graffiti and a cipher and given the opportunity to decode ancient Roman cursive into contemporary English characters and then try writing the characters for themselves.

A THESIS OF GOLD: INHERIT THE WIND ARRIVES AT HAMPDEN-SYDNEY

MICHAEL HARRIS '22
LIFE EDITOR

The day is finally upon us where the last play of the semester will take place. It has been greatly anticipated by many and it is going to be a fantastic show. The play that will be showing this week and next weekend, April 21, 22, 23, 29, and 30, is a dual-led thesis by Tobias Konieczka '22 and myself called Inherit the Wind. Tobias wishes to show the effects of cancel culture and how it is viewed through a multitude of lenses. As for me, I wish to show through my performance how casting effects how a play is interpreted. I also want to show common tropes that productions use that are based on real life events have in common with one another. Both of these theses intertwine with one another, so Tobias and I are truly blessed that this play was brought into existence.

To cover some background of this production, it is good to note that the play is based on a real life event called The Scopes Monkey Trial. The trial and the play center on a school teacher, who in the play goes by the name of Bertram Cates. Mr. Cates read an excerpt of

Charles Darwin’s *Origin of Species* to his high school students knowing his town had a law against teaching evolution. The town did not take too kindly to this news. They decided to put Mr. Cates on trial and all hell breaks loose. The prosecution is led by a man named

Matthew Harrison Brady, a lawyer from Nebraska who is well known for his spirituality. All seems fine within the town and everyone thinks the case is as good as settled. That is until the man who will be the defense is found out. Henry Drummond, an agnostic from Chicago, enters the town of Hillsboro and is greeted with screams and contempt. The trial is filled with fireworks and in the end it appears that God himself gets put on trial, which leads to a result no one saw coming. This student led production has taken many months to put together with one of the largest casts in Hampden-Sydney history. It means a great deal to have our fellow Hampden-Sydney brethren show support for your fellow tigers. This production is promised to be an electrifying experience that will captivate not just your mind, but your heart as well.

INHERIT THE WIND

Directed by Tobias Konieczka

BY JEROME LAWRENCE AND ROBERT E. LEE

April 21, 22, 23, 29, and 30
8 pm



A HAMPDEN-SYDNEY THEATRE THESIS
Photo credit: Tobias Konieczka '22

NEWS

WILSON CENTER HOSTS DAVID FRENCH

BOOMER, CONT'D

DANIEL NIVENS '24
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

On Tuesday, April 20, the Wilson Center hosted noted conservative columnist David French for a discussion titled “Good Men Needed: The Responsibility of Masculinity and Today’s Challenge to Good Citizenship.” French, who currently works as Senior Editor of The Dispatch, is well-known for his columns, podcast appearances, and books.

The evening began with an introduction from Dr. Ryan Pemberton, Director of the Wilson Center, and Dr. John Hillen, Wheat Professor of Leadership. French spoke for about 20 minutes. Afterwards, Hillen and French sat down for a “Fire-side Chat,” which lasted around an hour with questions from the audience.

In broad strokes, French addressed a masculinity crisis in today’s culture. The traits of stoicism, competitiveness, and aggression, which are overwhelmingly traits possessed by men, are demonized as unequivocally wrong-headed and immoral. As a result, men are increasingly lost



Photo courtesy of The Dispatch.com

and isolated from society and do not learn how to properly control these traits. French argued that the solution is not to suppress these traits but to develop them correctly.

Each trait has its extreme. The stoic dad who does not spend enough time with his kids is not the ideal to strive for. Instead, stoicism properly refined is keeping a cool head when a problem arises. Similarly, a cutthroat attitude is not the ideal of competitiveness; someone who is always looking to

improve, however, is an ideal to strive for. Lastly and more seriously, aggression is not always a virtue. But, as French noted, justified ag-

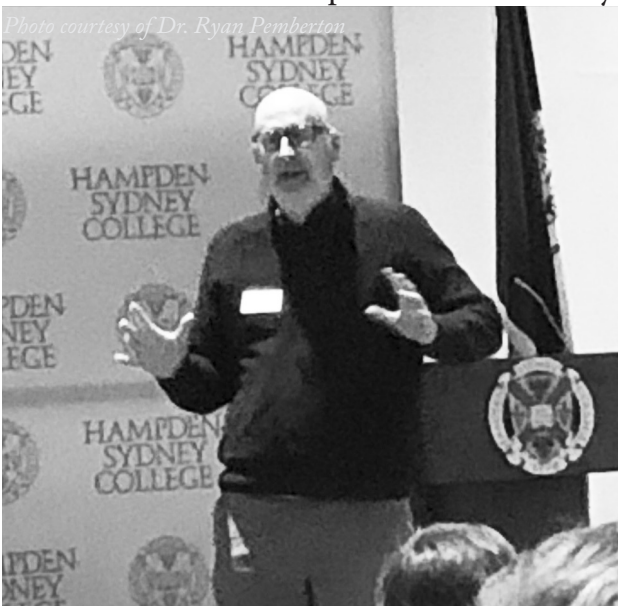
gression is what is facing down Russian aggression in Ukraine. Each trait has a proper context.

To teach these traits properly, French argued that men need to have an overarching purpose. Men guided by an overarching purpose, like the Founding Fathers, can achieve great things. French argued that men properly guided by typical masculine virtues have a role in restoring the quality of the United States’ public discourse.

However, French was not overly optimistic. He noted that refining these qualities into virtue takes work. Achieving a grand purpose takes even more work. Young men, particularly Hampden-Sydney men, have to step up to put in the work necessary to improve the country.

er summarized, “you act like an animal.” The second example was from his time as a CEO of the Rogers Corporation, which produces “specialty engineered materials” according to their website. Although he previously had little experience in the field of engineering, he made it his mission to learn all that he could about what his company did, eventually getting a grasp on the essentials. This dedication to the mechanics of his work no doubt relieved many of his employees. Remember how awful it was to explain how something worked to your boss or parents? By dedicating himself to learning his work, he earned the respect of those who followed him. These two examples were only a few of the many that General Boomer gave to his audience in Bortz, each one illustrating the effects of the Four Truths on his own life. He hopes that these Four Truths will guide Hampden-Sydney men to become good leaders in their own right. In an interview a few weeks after his talk, General Boomer reiterated the reason that he had come to speak at Hamp-

den-Sydney. “HSC grads are going to be leaders, and very quickly,” he stated. The General knew then and knows now that America needs these graduates to be good leaders and to be men of character. After visiting campus, the General soon came to believe that Hampden-Sydney students were up to the task. As the General stated in an interview, he had only heard of the College before visiting and left very impressed with the College itself and the students with whom he interacted. He also stated that he especially enjoyed the conversations that he had during his stay at the College, including his conversation with President Stimpert, his conversation with students around campus and during dinner, and his conversation with the local ROTC chapter. All of these interactions are proof of the uniqueness and strength of Hampden-Sydney, an institution that, as President Stimpert often says, “America needs now more than ever.” Thanks to General Boomer for helping to make HSC students into “good men and good citizens.”



THE PROBLEMS OF GRAND STRATEGY:
ALEXANDER HAMILTON SOCIETY HOSTS DR. HILLEN

GRAYSON HARMON '22
STAFF WRITER

On Tuesday, April 5, 2022, the Honorable Dr. John Hillen gave the Hampden-Sydney College community a lecture on “Grand Strategy: The Challenges of Implementing One.” This lecture, given in the Chairman’s Room at the top of Pannill Commons, was attended by roughly 60 students, professors, and community members, all of whom were enraptured as Dr. Hillen took the podium.

Mike Daum, President of the Hampden-Sydney College chapter of The Alexander Hamilton Society, welcomed and introduced Dr. Hillen by running through his long list of accomplishments as a veteran, government official, businessman, and professor. Following this introduction, Dr. Hillen kicked off the evening by playing a game of Family Feud with a few members of the audience, which sparked some conversation and thoughts throughout the rest of the room.



Photo courtesy of Grayson Harmon '22

From here, Dr. Hillen went on to define what grand strategy was and offered those in attendance an experienced and interesting perspective on the topic. The talk lasted about an hour and a half and ended with open-floor questions and closing remarks from Mike Daum.

When asked about the importance of the lecture and what he hoped the audience would take away from it, Dr. Hillen had this to say:

“My first goal for the talk was to help people understand what goes into making a grand strategy, especially an American grand strategy, and in particular the complexities and the challenges of implementing it. Secondly, I wanted them to understand the importance of leadership within [grand strategy]. Thirdly, I wanted to present a possible vision of an American grand strategy that is very involved in leading

in the world and yet at the same time isn’t wasteful or reckless, but is principled, prudent, supportable, consequential, accomplishable, and is good for Americans and others...” This lecture on grand strategy given by Dr. Hillen was both informative and insightful, and the Alexander Hamilton Society plans to host more events like this in the future for the members of the Hampden-Sydney College community.

As stated on the College’s official website, “The Alexander Hamilton Society (AHS) is a non-partisan, not-for-profit national organization that seeks to identify, educate, and launch young men and women into foreign policy and national security careers imbued with the Hamiltonian perspective of strong and principled American leadership in global affairs.”

WOMEN, CONT'D

body to succeed.” Lastly, Sandy Cooke, Director of Student Affairs Operations, Orientation, and Civic Engagement, leaves a sizeable impact on clubs and overall student involvement. According to one student, Mrs. Cooke is “always open to help, even though she is one of the busiest people I know.”

I could say more about women on The Hill, but I would need a lot more room for that. On March 8th (International Women’s Day), DEI and Dean Hollemon sent carnation letters to all women faculty/staff to thank them for their services to The College. If you want to learn more about the women highlighted during Women’s History Month, you can go to the Hampden-Sydney College Human Resources page on Facebook. I want to give a special thanks to Sue Carter for her help with the article and all of her efforts in highlighting the women who’ve made a positive impact on our community, and I thank all the women at Hampden-Sydney College for being positive influences on our community.

THE PEANUT GALLERY

WAIT, THIS ISN'T JAMES BOND?

THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO

Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons



DANIEL NIVENS '24
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

To those of you who know me, you probably know that I am quite terrible at watching movies. Chances are if you ever ask me “Have you seen this movie?”, the answer is no. So, in an effort to make myself watch some movies, I am writing this column. In every issue of The Tiger, I will be writing a non-spoiler review of an old movie that I had never seen. These movies could be a decade old; they could be five decades old. The moral of the story is that spoiler alerts never spoil.

This week, we’re taking a look at the 2011 film *The Girl with The Dragon Tattoo*. Starring James Bo-

I mean Daniel Craig—and Rooney Mara, David Finch-

er’s adaptation of the Swedish novel by the same name is an unnerving and effective thriller. For those of you who’ve read my review of *No Time to Die*, you know that I’m a huge Daniel Craig fan—he essentially plays himself in this movie, and it is highly effective. Mara is really where the film shines, though; she won an Oscar for Best Actress for this film. The story centers around a disgraced British journalist living in Sweden who is hired by an elderly tycoon to investigate a 40-year-old cold-case disappearance. Saying any more would spoil the plot, so I will leave it there. The mystery and the slow unveiling of reality are very well executed and keep you on the edge of your seat. There are

some parts that I don’t like, though. I’ll admit that this part of the review may stray very much into personal preference, and the objective reader may not agree with me. The movie strays into gratuitous violence and depictions of rape and sexual assault. It makes parts of the movie very uncomfortable and almost unwatchable for me. I know the director refused to remove these scenes in some foreign versions of the film, claiming that they are necessary to the plot. I would respectfully disagree; almost all of the violence is unnecessary, and the human brain is imaginative enough to fill in the gaps on a fade-to-black. Overall, though, I really enjoyed *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*. I’ll give it a solid 78%.

AN UPDATE ON THE NBA PLAYOFFS

GAITHER COMEAU '24
STAFF WRITER

Now that March Madness is over, that can only mean one thing for basketball fans: the beginning of the NBA playoffs. This postseason is looking to be something unique this year with there being no clear guarantee for who will be hoisting the Larry O’Brien trophy at the end of this year’s playoffs. After a season filled with a number of surprises and disappointments, the final sixteen teams have already begun their run for a spot in The Finals. The different matchups have been put in place and there is no shortage of entertainment from the Western Conference to the Eastern Conference. Starting in the West, the number 1 seeded Phoenix Suns are facing off against the number 8 seeded New Orleans Pelicans. The Suns made it to The Finals last postseason but were left with a sour taste in their mouth after going up 2-0 and then giving up 4 games straight to allow the Milwaukee Bucks to storm back to win it all. With Chris Paul leading the charge alongside Devin Booker this Suns team is looking stronger than last year and ready to return to the fi-

nals. The Pelicans are facing adversity with Zion Williamson being labeled out for the playoffs, but anything can happen with the young talent this team has. The Suns are currently up 1-0 in the series and the teams play again April 19th. In the next matchup in the west the Memphis Grizzlies are going up against the Minnesota Timberwolves. Memphis has come out of nowhere being led by Ja Morant who has certified himself as one of the best point guards in the league. However, I believe the Timberwolves have the most momentum in the postseason right now after defeating the Clippers in the play-in tournament and stealing game one against Memphis. Minnesota leads the series 1-0 and the teams will face off again April 19th. Then there’s the Warriors with Steph, Klay, and Draymond. These three have already proven how great they can be with each of them securing three rings together. Facing this team is the Denver Nuggets who are battling right now without star guard Jamal Murray. Despite this Nugget’s star Nikola Jokic leads the MVP ladder currently and is attempting to go against the odds and make it out against the Warriors. The Golden State War-

riors lead the series 2-0 and will play again April 21st. For the final matchup in the West, the Dallas Mavericks are going up against the Utah Jazz. After star player Luka Doncic showed why he is still one of the best players in basketball, the Mavericks landed a spot in the playoffs at the number 4 seed. However, with Doncic being out the Jazz stole game one in Dallas after star player Donovan Mitchell proved that he is just as big of a force. Look for this matchup to go all the way to seven games. The Series is currently tied at 1-1 and the teams will face off again April 21st. Moving into the Eastern Conference, the top seeded Miami Heat will battle the eight seeded Atlanta Hawks. After going to the Finals just two years ago, the Heat sit atop the east with a mission to return to the Finals and take what is theirs. Jimmy Butler has become the heart and soul of this team and seems to be pushing everything that he has to get back to where he wants to be. Going up against them are the Atlanta Hawks, who are led by star point guard Trae Young who is surrounded by young talent. This team has the ability to shoot the lights out and look for them to do

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ODE TO MALT LIQUOR: A BEER REVIEW IN VERSE

MICHAEL VAN CITTERS '22
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

When April with its ether clear
Hath swallowed all of March’s beer,
The season calls for something quicker—
Paper cups of malted liquor.

Greek week kept us sated, providing
Ample beer to thirsty students, feeding
Forget-me juice to C+ students.
And when we were freshmen, staying at Cushing,
The oldest dorm, we went to the fraternities,
And we were entertained. They said, Michael,
Michael, I think I might throw up. And up it came.
In the bathroom, there you must go.
I read, much of the day, and go to the Circle in the night.

I’m going now to drink Colt 45;
I’ll only drink three quarters of the can
(I hope that makes me nothing less a man.)
I cannot finish.—You have some.

I’m going now to put this bev’rage down,
It’s harsh and bitter. Still, the can is nice.
Perhaps its better if it’s poured on ice.
I cannot finish.—You have some.

I open a can of Icehouse, and I drink a can of Icehouse.
We can drink from the same container,
Because we are friends, and part of being friends is not caring about
each other’s germs.
I feel disgusting when I put this can to my lips, when I put it to me,
And when I think about the urine-like substance I am putting into
my body
Only to release it later as a substance more like urine still.

Cans and bottles, so many of them produced in a year.
I wonder how people enjoy this, and I wonder if myself is featured
prominently enough in this poem.

This is the middle of our beer review,
At which point I relate what I opine—
My general impressions of the brew.

Some love its bubbly taste, but I cannot
Agree with those who think its flavor fine
And after cracking every can I bought

The only path of action I advise
Is that you sate whatever April thirst
You have with water, and you’ll realize

This dreadful boozy beverage is the worst.

The strength, O goddess, sing the strength of Steel Reserve, the
strongest beer
And of its ABV, and all the headaches that it wrought on them,
That gave such hangovers to people when they woke the morning
next.
No worse a beverage ever have I drunk than what is hidden in
this silver can, it’s like a bullet in the way it looks and like
a bombshell in the way it hits the stomach. Like the gates of hell
I hate this drink, and never shall I open up another can.

Tho’ much is drunken, much remains; and tho’
We do not like the taste of what our glass
Contains or how we feel, we must go on;
In searching for the finest thing to drink,
We find our obligation and our way
To smell, to taste, to drink, and not to drive.

As fine a language as the English be,
As sweet a song as dying turkey sings,
As pleasant as an agitated bee,
So is the flavour which Olde English brings.
It cloy upon the tastebuds and the cheeks
And makes the man to retch and to convulse,
Disgusted, but he swallows, and it leaks
Into the gut in peristaltic pulse.
So is the one they call Milwaukee’s Best;
This one is often thought to be the first
Among malt liquors, greater than the rest.
But if it’s best, I dare not think what’s worst.
This thou hast read that makes thy wisdom grow,
So when one offers some to you—say no.

LIFE

CROSSWORD

JOHN TORIAN '24
CRUCIVERBALIST

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
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49					50			51			52			53
57	58	59						60				61		
62								63				64		
65								66				67		

Across

1. Hubble’s heir
5. Goalie’s feat
9. Part of an act
14. Not there
15. Camelot lady
16. A hat or a saw
17. It’s south of Georgia
18. Beckon
20. Crude metal
22. Denver height
23. Prod
24. Nicolas of films
25. History class activity
28. Gives off positivity?
30. Laughing animal
32. Auction action
34. Journal of Philosophy
36. Killed, to a mafioso
37. Frankincense and myrrh, but not gold
39. Course requirement?
40. Touch up
41. Suggestive
42. Scribe
44. Pigs’ digs
45. Lift, so to speak
47. Hampden-Sydney Gentlemen
49. Menagerie
50. NRA concern
52. Not sent via snail
54. 2-dimensional unit
55. Waistband property
57. Take away
61. Holy headgear
62. “___for art thou Romeo?”
63. Regretful remark
64. Arrival times
65. Errands
66. Hampden-Sydney thinkers
67. Schismatic

Down

1. Horse motivator
2. Hair-raising
3. Empty boasts
4. Harmless
5. Second in a piano duet
6. Auth. unknown
7. Often with vigor
8. Swelling
9. Outwardly happy
10. Give credit where credit is due
11. Crytpo curr.
12. Formerly known as
13. To be human
19. Professor of Philosophy
21. Quarters
24. Business needs
25. Require
26. Regarding
27. Rice ___
29. Pay to play
31. Set one’s sights
32. The best place on campus for 25 across
33. Potato state
35. Interstate hauler
38. Reuben bread
40. Blink-182 album “___ of the State”
42. Former Israeli president
43. Never gets old
46. Inconsistent
48. Irritations
51. Las Vegas of

RIDING THROUGH HISTORY:
INDS 385 EXPLORES CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELDS

DRAKE KALINOWSKI '23
STAFF WRITER

This past November, Dr. Hillen’s INDS 385 class, Leadership in American Institutions, conducted a staff ride as a sort of culminating event to cap off the fall semester. The group met at the Wilson Center, where lunches were distributed and the plan of action of the day was discussed. The class was joined by Col. Bowyer, class of ’92 LTC. Snead, class of ’81, Col. Eanes, a visiting lecturer and retired intelligence officer, Bill Anderson, class of ’67 with a law degree and masters, and finally Dr. Hillen himself. From this host of experienced military men, it should come as no surprise that the focus of the staff ride was going to be the rich history of the Civil War that surrounds Hampden-Sydney and permeates all of Virginia.

The history of the staff ride is interesting in and of itself. Staff rides originated in Prussia, part of what would become modern day Germany. Prussia had a rich military history which carried over into the unified nation of Germany, and part of this tradition was the staff ride, in which members of a general’s staff would visit sites of key importance in past battles and reimagine the situation as it

was then. There is an oft repeated phrase “Those who cannot learn from history are doomed to repeat it” which epitomizes why staff rides are conducted, and often so important. Staff rides, in the military, are conducted so that officers and leaders can examine the situations of past leadership, determine what went well and what went poorly, and therefore gain the knowledge and experience of those who came before them. Doing so allows them to perfect the good of prior leadership and be on guard for signs of folly and ruin.

The staff ride lasted from ten in the morning on Saturday, November 20th to five that evening and covered four key locations: Sailor’s creek battlefield, High Bridge, Appomattox, and the McLean House, where General Lee formally surrendered to General Grant. Along the way, Dr. Hillen and the accompanying members of the HSC community gave key insights into military history and staff rides in general as the students prepared their presentations. All of them gave a presentation in the form of stepping into the persona of a key leader at the time, ranging from General Lee to President Lincoln. Throughout the locations, each presenter addressed the group as their as-

signed persona, explaining the ins and outs of their personalities and the decisions made at certain areas. Lincoln explained his rationale for assigning Grant to chase down Lee, and Lee explained his rationale for surrendering at Appomattox Courthouse. The staff ride followed the movement from Sailor’s Creek battlefield, across the famous High Bridge into Farmville, and eventually all the way to Appomattox battlefield and the McLean house itself.

Throughout the ride, this reporter noticed something in each of the characterizations of the key historical figures. All of them seemed to want the war to be over as soon as possible and as peacefully as possible. There were certainly people in the North during the time of the Civil War that wanted to punish the South, but Lincoln focused on a policy that is uniquely American: a peaceful resolution to conflict. In ancient times, conflicts ended with one side wiped out and the victor unopposed. In the early twentieth century, fines and penalties were stacked so high on Germany at the close of World War One that the country fell into disarray shortly afterwards. The American idea of peaceful ends to hostilities seems to color the tone of surrender from World War Two onwards, for the better of all parties involved. Japan, Italy, and Germany, while forced into surrender postures, were not wiped clean of their whole history and identity. I noticed as the students and accompanying military veterans gave their presentations that there did seem to be something unique about America and the way it conducts war and potentially even the way it views leadership.

The staff ride ended promptly after the surrender at

Photo courtesy of Drake Kalinowski '23



Continue reading on page 6

THIS DAY IN HISTORY:
Parisia Advenit

DANIEL MARSDEN '23
STAFF WRITER

Today, April 21st 2022 AD, is the 2774th anniversary of the founding of Rome, but is it really? There is no account from Romulus, the mythical founder. In part, this may be due to the

Gallic Sack of Rome in 387 BC, which destroyed any remaining records from the time in question. The *Varronian Chronology*, compiled by Marcus Terentius Varro, is the list of consuls by which the Romans kept time. Thus, the Roman histories only reach back to the birth of the Republic in 509

BC, 245 years after the traditional date given for the founding of Rome. When recounting the life of Romulus, Livy states that “these details are accepted by many historians”(History of Rome, 5, 43). The Romans celebrated the anniversary each year with the festival of the Parilia. However, modern

historians place the historicity of Romulus and his founding are in question. So, was Rome really founded exactly 2774 years ago today? Maybe. Regardless, the Classics Department is certainly celebrating with a trivia night and cash prizes in Gilmer 019 at 5:30. *Valete.*

THE BACK PAGE

CHRISTIAN’S CORNER: HOLY WEEK AND BEYOND

KADE MINTON '25
GUEST WRITER

My fellow Brothers of Hampden-Sydney, I write to you today in the wake of Holy Week and the celebration of Easter. I would guess that many of you already know why we celebrate Easter, and some of us may just wait on the Easter basket rather than bothering with dress clothes and old pews. But please, allow me to reassert why Christians celebrate Easter. Easter is the day Christ rose from the dead after he was crucified and had been buried. We can read the story of the resurrection in the gospel of Luke 24:1-6, “But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has

risen.” The resurrection of Christ is the single most important event to any Christian believer. The resurrection is the root of our hope, the foundation of our faith, and the triumph of truth. As Christians, the resurrection is so vital to our beliefs that Paul writes in Romans 10:9, “because,

Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons



if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” Knowing that the resurrection of Je-

sus is everything, how should we celebrate such an event? How should we go about our lives the following week after Easter? My immediate response is that we should be abounding with joy. Philippians 4:1 says, “Rejoice in the Lord always, again I will say rejoice.” We no longer live a

would beseech you to maintain your joy. Many of us can find ourselves overemphasizing the negatives of life. We can easily be blinded by our immediate situation, and then we forget to be thankful for our blessings. Take joy in the beauty of Spring. Take joy in your brothers beside you. Take joy in the opportunity to be at college and to rise each day in a free country. Finally, take joy that Christ has risen.

As we finish the school year and go back to where we came or move into a different stage of our lives, we must not forget the lessons we have learned at Hampden-Sydney. Carry the characters of your brothers with you to your hometowns and use what you have learned in class. Strive to be a gentleman to everyone you meet. Above all else, continue to live a joyful life in Christ’s resurrection so that those around you may see and believe He is Lord. Of course, I am but a man. If you have any quarrels or comments with what I have written, then feel free to contact me at mintonj25@hsc.edu.

Your Brother,
Kade Minton

NBA, CONT’D

that in the upcoming games. The Heat currently lead the series 1-0 and play again on April 19th.

Now, to arguably the most entertaining matchup in the first round: the Boston Celtics are facing the Brooklyn Nets. The Celtics have emerged as a true contender with Jayson Tatum and Defensive Player of the Year Marcus Smart playing massive roles in the team’s success. Since the All-Star break this team has been hot and does not seem like they are slowing down. On the other end of the matchup is the Nets with Kevin Durant and Kyrie Irving. These two alone are capable of leading a team to a championship. Despite their disappointing season, these Nets will not go down easily and could very well make a run deep in the playoffs. The Celtics currently lead the series 1-0 and play again April 20th. Now onto the three seed, the defending champions, the Milwaukee Bucks. Giannis Antetokounmpo is arguable the most dominant player in NBA history and has not shown any signs of decline this season. The Bucks big three of Giannis, Khris Middleton, and Jrue

Holiday are capable of dismantling anyone who stands in front of them. Challenging the defending champs are the Chicago Bulls. One of the biggest shocks this season has been this Bulls team and its ability to go against anyone. DeMar DeRozan and Zach Lavine have propelled this team into the position they are in and look to put a stop to the Bucks’ chance at a second title. The Bucks are up in the series 1-0 and play again April 20th. Finally, The Philadelphia 76ers match up against the Toronto Raptors. The 76ers new duo of Joel Embiid and James Harden has proven to be a great fit with Embiid winning the scoring title and Harden playing more into a point guard role. Against the Sixers are the Toronto Raptors who are struggling with injuries this year with many pieces of the team not playing together. However, with Nick Nurse’s mind behind the coaching, the Raptors can do anything. The 76ers lead the series 2-0 and play again April 20th. These playoffs can go any way with many fan favorite and veteran teams competing at a chance to be labeled as champions.

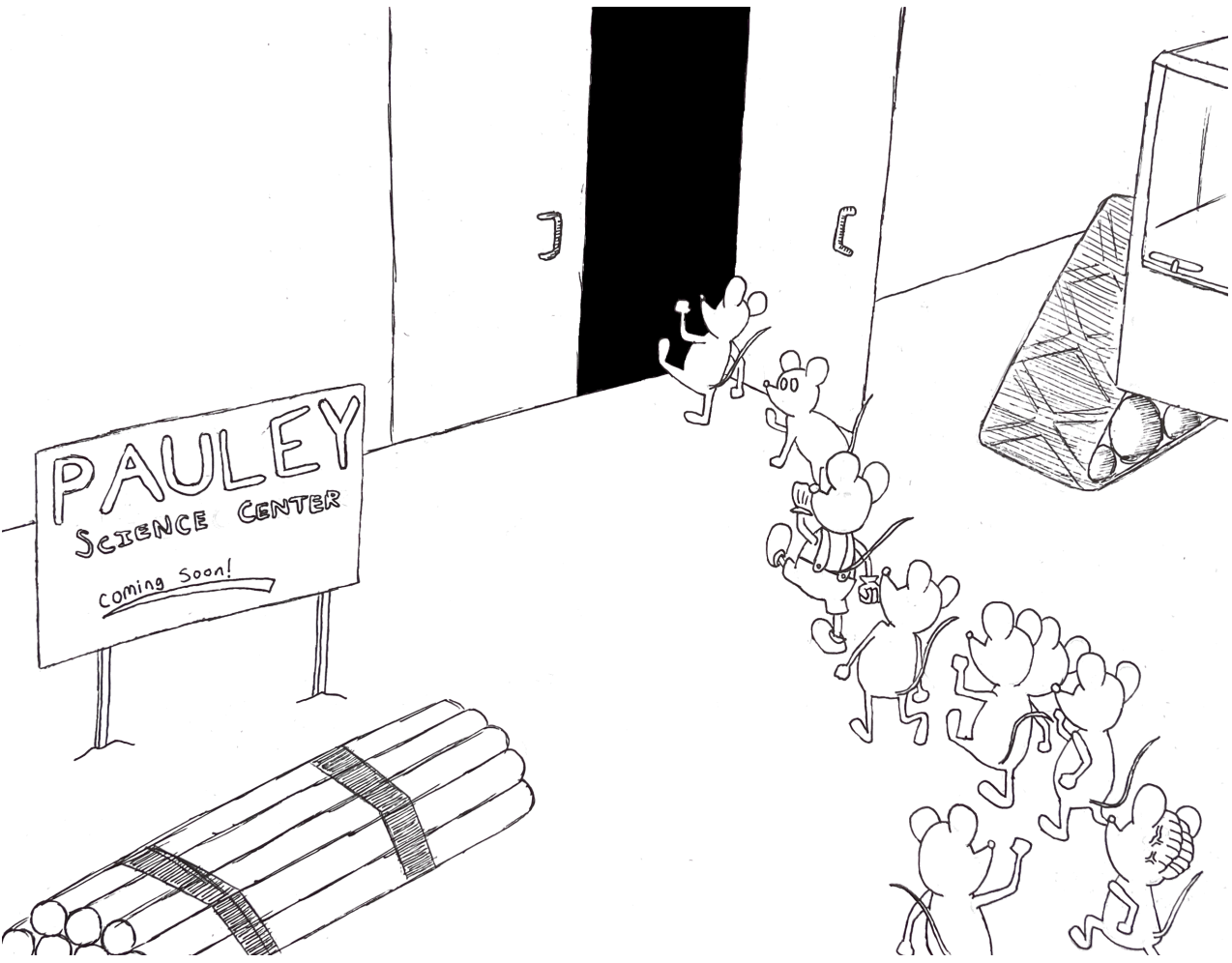
STAFF RIDE, CONT’D

Appomattox was discussed, and the group returned to HSC. As anyone who has been in a difficult situation can tell you, experience is the best teacher of all. The lessons learned from being in the arena and actually putting yourself out there top any theory or idea that can be taught or dissected in a classroom or in a debate. The experience of going on the staff ride, of asking myself what I would do in the shoes of those great men, is something that I will carry with me for the rest of my life. It has affected my own view of leadership, just as it affected the views of those students who accompanied Dr. Hillen on the ride through the past. Learning from this history is the only way to prevent the mistakes of past leaders from

being repeated, and in learning from them, great leaders, men, and citizens are formed. Dr. Hillen was pleased with the staff ride and the effort put forth by his students, and proudly proclaimed it a success. Next year, he plans on conducting a similar event but around the area of Yorktown. Dr. Hillen is an amazing professor and an incredible leader, whose value to upcoming leaders and young men cannot be overstated. If the opportunity to take a class with Dr. Hillen presents itself, it is the sincere hope of this reporter that you learn from those who have struggled with leadership, and join Dr. Hillen on an incredible journey through history, character, and leadership.

CARTOON

SSAM ROBELEN '23
CARTOONIST



Lab rats hide from Science Department in conveniently located construction site

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